

Maryland State Board of Victim Services Meeting
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services
Wednesday, April 6, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:

Steve Kelly, Esq., Chair
Heather Amador for Kunle Adeyemo
Anne Bean
Jessica Dickerson for Secretary Sam Abed
Lou Gieszl
Theresa Hiegel
Sheriff Gary Hofmann
Molly Knipe
Anne Colt Leitess, Esq.
Steve Levin
Jill Ritter
Alonzo Robertson, Esq.
Lisa Smith, Esq.
Lisa Spicknall-Horner
Patricia Stevens for Secretary Robert Green
Jeanne Yeager

Guests:

Jessica Daigle, Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office
Karen Darby, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Stephanie Erdice, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Laurie Kimbles, Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention Youth, and Victim Services Staff:

Rebecca Allyn, Cameron Edsall

I. Introductions and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. Ms. Allyn conducted a roll call and guests introduced themselves.

II. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda contained the January 2022 Board meeting minutes and updates from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services.

- *Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Updates:* Ms. Allyn informed members that Kunle Adeyemo has been [appointed as the Executive Director](#) of the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (the Office). Ms. Allyn shared that the Governor included an additional [\\$35 million in the state budget for victim services](#). The Office is currently accepting grant applications for the

[Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grant](#). Applications are due April 28. Continuation grants will be provided for current Maryland Victims of Crime (MVOC) grantees so long as they are in good standing. The Office is determining if continuation grants or a Notice of Funding Availability will be posted for other state grants. The Office will be conducting a victim services needs survey later this spring to guide the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) strategic plan, but the survey will include all aspects of victim services.

Mrs. Yeager made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Mrs. Ritter seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the consent agenda was approved.

III. Legislation

Mr. Edsall and Ms. Allyn provided members with an overview of several bills as of April 6. The legislative session ends April 11.

- [House Bill 148](#) - Criminal Law - Stalking - Definition: This bill alters the definition of stalking to include conduct which occurs in person, through electronic communication, or through the use of a device that can pinpoint or track the location of another without the person's knowledge or consent. *In the Senate - Third Reading Passed with Amendments (46-0), Back for Review in Original Chamber*
- [House Bill 210](#) - Criminal Trials - Spousal Privilege - Exception - This bill provides that the spouse of a person on trial for a crime may be compelled to testify as an adverse witness if the spouse and the person on trial married after the date on which the alleged crime for which the person is on trial occurred. *In the Senate - Favorable Report by Judicial Proceedings*
- [House Bill 270](#) - Business Regulation - Innkeepers - Maintenance of Guest Records and Employee Human Trafficking Awareness Training and Policy: This bill requires the Office and the Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) to approve education training programs for the accurate and prompt identification and reporting of suspected human trafficking. An innkeeper must ensure that all employees of the lodging establishment receive the annual training, including new employees within 90 days of hiring. An innkeeper must establish a procedure for reporting human trafficking, as specified, and implement a policy for employees to recognize, respond to, and assist potential victims of human trafficking. In addition, the bill requires an innkeeper to establish and maintain a computerized recordkeeping system of all guest transactions and receipts. The records must be retained for at least six months. *In the Senate - Third Reading Passed with Amendments (34-13), Back for Review in Original Chamber*
- [House Bill 284](#) - Criminal Procedure - Out of Court Statements - Child Victims and Witnesses: This bill expands statutory evidentiary provisions that authorize the admission of an out of court statement in a juvenile court or criminal proceeding made by a child victim under specified circumstances to include (1) a statement made by a child victim who is younger than age 13 and is an alleged victim or a child alleged to be in need of assistance in the case before the court concerning neglect of a minor and (2) a statement made by a child victim or witness who is younger than age 13 and is an alleged victim or a witness in a case before the court concerning a crime of violence under § 14-101 of the

Criminal Law Article. The bill makes conforming changes to applicable statutory provisions. *In the House, Returned Passed, Sent to Governor*

- [House Bill 833](#) - Criminal Law - Victims of Child Sex Trafficking and Human Trafficking - Safe Harbor and Service Response: This bill (1) alters procedures that a law enforcement officer and court must follow when there is reason to believe a child who has been detained is a victim of “sex trafficking” or a “victim of human trafficking”; (2) prohibits the criminal prosecution of or a juvenile proceeding against a minor for a “qualifying offense,” a “violation” (specified offenses for which a citation may be issued), or an offense under § 3-1102 of the Criminal Law Article (sex trafficking) if the minor committed the underlying act as a direct result of “sex trafficking”; and (3) adds offenses to the list of qualifying offenses for which a person may file a motion to vacate judgment if the person’s participation was a direct result of being a victim of human trafficking. *In the House, Returned Passed, Sent to Governor*
- [Senate Bill 33](#) - Criminal Law - Sexual Crimes - Fourth-Degree Sexual Offense and Spousal Defense: This bill alters the definition of “sexual contact”; and repealing a certain prohibition on prosecuting a person for rape or a certain sexual offense against a victim who was the person’s legal spouse at the time of the alleged rape or sexual offense. *In the House - Second Reading Passed with Amendments*
- [Senate Bill 71](#) - Hate Crimes - Civil Remedy: This bill authorizes a person who is a victim of an act that would constitute a violation of the State’s hate crime laws to bring a civil action against a person who committed the act if the person (the plaintiff) suffered harm from the act of a kind different from the harm suffered by a person within the class protected under the State’s hate crime laws who is a victim of the same act. The bill authorizes a court to award a variety of specified remedies. The bill applies prospectively to causes of action arising on or after the bill’s October 1, 2022 effective date. *Third Reading Passed with Amendments (94-41), Back for Review in Original Chamber*
- [Senate Bill 331](#) - Program for Preventing HIV Infection for Rape Victims – Alterations and Repeal of Sunset: This bill repeals the termination date of the Pilot Program for Preventing HIV Infection for Rape Victims; repealing the limit on the total annual amount physicians, qualified health care providers, and hospitals are entitled to be paid for providing certain treatment or follow-up care; and altering the requirement that the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services report to the Governor and General Assembly on the operation and results of the program. *In the House - Favorable Report by Health and Government Operations as of 4/6*
- [Senate Bill 842](#) - Criminal Procedure – Petition to Modify or Reduce Sentence (Maryland Second Look Act): This bill authorizes a person who is serving a term of confinement to petition a court to modify or reduce the sentence under certain circumstances; providing that a certain petitioner is entitled to assistance of counsel and, if indigent, representation by the Office of the Public Defender. *In the Senate*
 - The Board submitted a letter of opposition for SB 842.

IV. Victim/Witness Relocation Program

The Board is authorized to advise the Maryland State’s Attorneys’ Association on the adoption of regulations governing the administration of the Victim and Witness Protection and Relocation Program (Program). The purpose of the Program is to protect victims and witnesses and relocate

victims and witnesses to protect them or to facilitate their participation in court proceedings. The Program regulations have not been updated, and Ms. Allyn will coordinate a subcommittee to review the current regulations and provide recommendations to the MSAA.

V. Updates

- *2022 Crime Victims' Rights Week*

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is April 24-30, 2022.

The [32nd Memorial Services for Crime Victims and Their Families](#) will be hosted by the Harford, Prince George's, Washington, and Worcester County State's Attorneys' Offices on Sunday, April 24, 2022.

- ❖ Harford County (Northern Region) – In person and virtual
 - Memorial to begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Harford Community College, Chesapeake Center, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air, MD 21015
 - Virtual memorial to begin at 2:00 p.m. on the [Harford County State's Attorney's Office Facebook page](#)
- ❖ Prince George's County (Southern Region) – Virtual
 - Memorial to begin at 2:00 p.m. on the [State's Attorney's Office for Prince George's County YouTube page](#)
- ❖ Worcester County (Eastern Region) – Virtual
 - Memorial to begin at 1:00 p.m. on the [Worcester County State's Attorney's Office Facebook page](#)
- ❖ Washington County (Western Region) – In person and virtual
 - Memorial to begin at 2:00 p.m. at the Hagerstown Seventh-day Adventist Church, 11507 Robinwood Drive, Hagerstown, MD 21740
 - Virtual memorial to begin at 2:00 p.m. on the [Washington County Board of County Commissioners YouTube page](#) or [Washington County Government Facebook page](#)

The [2022 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference](#) will be held virtually April 27-29. Conference topics will include equity in victim services, AirTag stalking, establishing or enhancing law enforcement based victim service, victims' rights, promising practices for victim services and COVID-19 response, legislation, compensation, victim notification, human trafficking, teen dating violence, and work life balance. The 2022 Governor's Victim Assistance Awards will be presented during the conference. Members reviewed the award nominations. The 2022 Governor's Victim Assistance Award recipients are:

- ❖ Henry Gleim Memorial Award: Wendy Lee, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement
- ❖ Virginia Mahoney Award: Dorothy Lennig, Esq., House of Ruth Maryland
- ❖ Vincent Roper Memorial Award: Steven Hess, Retired, United State Attorney's Office

- *Crime Victims' Rights Brochures and Forms*

Members discussed the mandated [brochures](#), and how else the Board could increase outreach of victims' rights materials in the state. One idea discussed was creating a QR code sticker for law enforcement. Ms. Allyn will see if this is feasible and if there are available funds.

Members also discussed the [Crime Victim Notification Request and Demand for Rights Form](#). Once all counties move to the Maryland Electronic Courts (MDEC) system, the Board will review and update the multi-copy form. Baltimore City and Prince George's County have yet to transition to MDEC.

VI. Old/New Business

Members shared information on other events during National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

- [Make a Difference for Victims' Rights 5k and Resource Fair](#) - Saturday, April 16 at 9:00 a.m. at Watkins Regional Park in Upper Marlboro, MD
- Anne Arundel County State's Attorney National Crime Victims' Rights Week Awards Ceremony - Monday, April 25 at 3:00 p.m. at Acton Park in Annapolis, MD
- [Washington County Color Splash Walk](#) - Friday, April 29 at 1:00 p.m. at Fairgrounds Park in Hagerstown, MD

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:58 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, July 6, 2022

Meeting ID: meet.google.com/kfw-svws-ogy

Phone Number: 1 337-704-7913

PIN: 166 672 009#